

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application

Applicant(s): Choi et al.
Case: 503042-A-01-US (Kappes)
Serial No.: 10/721,721
Filing Date: November 25, 2003
Group: 2142
Examiner: Christopher D. Biagini

Title: Method and Apparatus for Content Based Authentication for Network Access

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Examiner's August 14, 2007 Official Action

The Examiner found that the claims of the instant application, which are directed to content-based authentication techniques, describe two distinct inventions. The Examiner therefore required that the application be restricted to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. 121:

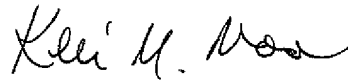
- I. Claims 1- 13, drawn to an authentication system which authenticates devices requesting access to a network, classified in class 709, subclass 229; and
- II. Claims 14-23, drawn to an authorization system which requests access to restoration services on a network, classified in class 709, subclass 229

Applicants respectfully assert that the restriction requirement is improper and should be withdrawn, since each Group is generally directed to content-based authentication techniques, and it is believed that a complete search for each Group would require a search of most, if not all, of the individual classes and subclasses. Accordingly, Applicant submits that an

examination of both Groups would not impose a serious burden on the Examiner. Where, as here, "the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions." MPEP §803.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the restriction requirement be reconsidered and withdrawn and that all of the pending claims in the application be examined together in this application, or, alternatively, Applicant hereby elects Group I, claims 1-13, for prosecution in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin M. Mason". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kevin" and last name "Mason" clearly distinguishable.

Date: September 14, 2007

Kevin M. Mason
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 36,597
Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP
1300 Post Road, Suite 205
Fairfield, CT 06824
(203) 255-6560